

Draft Report for:

Cultural Resources Survey

*Airport Road and Churchmans Road
New Castle County, Delaware*



Prepared for:
Delaware Department of Transportation

On behalf of:
Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP

Submitted by:
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ABSTRACT

This report documents the results and conclusions of a cultural resources survey at the intersection of DE 37 (Airport Road) and DE 58 (Churchmans Road) in Duross Heights, New Castle County, DE. The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) proposes to make improvements that include providing two through lanes and exclusive turn lanes on all approaches by widening all four approaches to this intersection. As part of federal environmental requirements associated with these improvements, the engineering firm of Whitman, Requardt and Associates, LLP (WRA) hired the Cultural Resources Group of Kise Straw and Kolodner (KSK) to complete this survey on behalf of DelDOT. KSK conducted a survey of historic architectural (above-ground) resources and archaeological (below-ground) resources. Fieldwork was completed in the late fall and winter of 2000 and spring of 2001.

This study determined that there are twenty-seven (27) buildings fifty years and older within the Area of Potential Effects. All twenty-seven resources appear to lack integrity, significance, or a combination of both qualities. Therefore, the proposed improvements do not have the potential to affect above-ground cultural resources, and a Determination of Effects is not required for this project.

Phase I archaeological investigations involved the conduct of extensive background research and a pedestrian reconnaissance for the purpose of developing a detailed sensitivity model for the project area. Field testing was subsequently performed to test the predictions of the model with respect to the presence or absence of historical and prehistoric subsurface deposits within the designated APE. Completion of field testing resulted in the identification of several concentrations of both Native American and late eighteenth-nineteenth century historic artifacts, designated sites 7-NC-E-151, 7-NC-E-152, and 7-NC-E-153. Of the cultural resources recovered only those associated with site 7-NC-E-152 were found to be potentially significant and were recommended for Phase II archaeological investigations, pending the inability of avoidance measures to remove the threat of potential construction-related impacts.

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